



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF INFORMATION
HQ AIR UNIVERSITY

AIR UNIVERSITY

TELEPHONE: MONTGOMERY, ALA.
(205) 265-5621, Ext. 6817

AIR FORCE HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

MAXWELL AFB, ALA.---The nation's central point for U. S. Air Force historical material is located here at Air University.

The Air Force Historical Division Archives contain more than a million primary materials spanning American aerospace endeavor from the Civil War to the present.

This vast store of information is available to historians, students, educators, researchers, professional writers, and others interested in the broad area of aerospace power and its past application.

In addition to American aerospace materials, there are extensive holdings of German Air Force material, some written by key Luftwaffe officers.

Research normally is done at the Archives. Circulation of documents outside of the Archives is limited almost entirely to official requests for the loan of materials.

The attached information pamphlet gives greater detail concerning this unique activity of Air University.

Persons desiring access to the Air Force Archives should make application to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF-OIP), Washington, D.C. 20330.



Strength Through Knowledge

-0-

USAF HISTORICAL DIVISION ARCHIVES
AEROSPACE STUDIES INSTITUTE
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

July 1966

USAF HISTORICAL DIVISION ARCHIVES

The Archives of the USAF Historical Division contains more than a million documents which, collectively, span the life of the USAF and its predecessors from Civil War balloons to manned spaceflight. This vast store of primary materials, now readily available to military planners, historians, students, professional writers, and researchers in American military aviation, constitutes the nation's most extensive and most valuable source of USAF history, contemporary and past.

Unit Histories, 1943-1965

The comprehensive program established early in World War II for the preparation and forwarding of Air Force unit histories has resulted in a regular flow of documents into the Historical Division Archives from 1943 to the present. Approximately one-half of the Archives' holdings is made up of World War II documents, chiefly unit histories and supporting documents prepared by field historians serving with commands, air forces, wings, groups, and squadrons; these histories constitute the most important part of the collection. Taken as a whole, this record of the Army Air Forces in World War II is surprisingly complete and of unusually good quality. Although the histories are not all of equal merit, most of them are filled with data of importance and of historical significance. They abound with human interest stories and reports of combat experiences; lessons learned in many phases of Air Force planning, training, operations, supply, etc., are emphasized. Supporting documents to the narrative histories include general and special orders, intelligence reports, operations summaries, mission reports, target folders, bomb damage assessments, messages, maps, charts, photographs, plans, evaluations and analyses, correspondence, statistics, and other types of records pertaining to modern military organization and modern warfare.

The Archives also has thousands of key documents--most of them unit histories--relating to the period of demobilization and readjustment following World War II, to the Korean conflict, and to the years of "peace" since 1953. Recent histories of units and organizations of the USAF located in the Pacific and Far East areas, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean reflect the worldwide cold war posture of the USAF. Histories of units in continental United States afford comprehensive coverage of training, personnel, logistics, research and development, military air transport, air defense, communications, and other subjects. There is a steady inflow of classified documents relating to the Air Force in Viet Nam.

Monographs and Special Studies

Closely related to the unit histories are the scores of monographs and special studies prepared by USAF Historical Division historians since 1943. Designed to be of immediate utility to the Air Force--especially to planners--they deal with subjects such as the development of air doctrine, air supply,

training, airborne operations, aeromedical evacuation, close air support, limited war, campaigns in various theaters in World War II, and the Korean conflict.

Archival holdings of German Air Force materials are quite extensive. Included are 40 monographs on World War II operations written between 1953 and 1958--under USAF Historical Division supervision--by key Luftwaffe officers. Eight of these have been published; the remainder are being edited as rapidly as possible, some for later publication. In addition, there is a sizable collection of GAF documents covering the period 1939 to 1945.

The monograph collection includes more than 200 case histories and logistics studies prepared since 1917 by the Air Force Logistics Command and its predecessors; graduate students' theses and dissertations based on extensive use of Archives documents; research reports of the Air Force Personnel and Training Research Center; special studies, reports, and lectures from Air University schools and research organizations; and intelligence reports on strategic world areas and analyses of World War II operations prepared by the British Air Ministry and related agencies.

Since 1950, the Annual Report of the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and a number of Annual Histories of Headquarters USAF have been prepared by the USAF Historical Division on a continuing basis and added to the collection.

Special Collections on World War II

In addition to unit histories, key documents, and monographs, the Archives has a number of special collections of World War II materials. The planning files, daily diaries and activity reports of AAF Headquarters staff offices for Training, Intelligence, Operations, Materiel, and Personnel from 1940 to 1945 are of particular pertinence to World War II military history. Also, there are numerous documents dealing with organization, planning, and operations preserved by the United States Forces European Theater (USFET), European Theater of Operations, US Army (ETOUSA), Allied Expeditionary Air Forces (AEAF), and Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEP), all operating in the European Theater.

Extensive coverage of planning and operations in the Mediterranean Theater (MTO) is provided by the 57-volume history of the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces (MAAF), and the files preserved by the Allied Force Headquarters in the MTO.

At the close of World War II the Archives obtained sizable collections of planning and operations data of several Pacific Theater command organizations. Included among these were materials from: the United States Army Forces in Australia (USAFIA); United States Army Strategic Air Forces (USASTAF); Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area (AAFPOA); Allied Air Forces, Southwest Pacific Area (AAFSWPA); General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area (GHQSWPA); and Far East Air Forces (FEAF).

From the China-Burma-India Theater, the Archives acquired some of the World War II files of the Southeast Asia Command (SEAC), United States Forces, India-Burma Theater (USAF IBT), Air Command Southeast Asia, and the Eastern Air Command (EAC).

United States Strategic Bombing Survey (USSBS) reports and the AAF Evaluation Board studies show the effectiveness of Allied airpower in World War II. The USSBS collection--divided into European and Pacific Theater sections--includes (1) a comprehensive history of the planning phase of the survey and of procedures employed in its accomplishment, (2) narrative summaries of AAF operations against certain types of targets, (3) area bomb studies, target team reports, statistical summaries of bombing operations, (4) and translations of German and Japanese documents relative to Allied bombing, with interrogations and interviews of enemy personnel. The AAF Evaluation Board studies describe investigations carried on in the European, Mediterranean, Pacific, Southwest Pacific, and China-Burma-India theaters of operations. They deal with tactics and techniques, doctrine, and organization of forces developed by tactical and strategic units in the course of World War II combat activities. Target and Field Team reports on physical damage to enemy targets--particularly rail lines, marshalling yards, airfields, rocket sites, bridges, and factories--are included.

The value of the Archives holdings on World War II is further enhanced by its collections of interviews, interrogations, prisoner-of-war reports, escape and evasion stories, and accounts of search and rescue activities from all theaters of operations.

The Korean Conflict

The active USAF historical program in effect in June 1950 enabled the historians of units engaged in operations in Korea to chronicle events from the first day of actual combat on 25 June. Archives material from the Far East Command (FEC) and FEAF, the United Nations Command, and the Fifth Air Force includes collections of unit histories and supporting documents, daily operations reports, intelligence reports, and narrative summaries of operations which provide detailed coverage of Allied combat activities. Special studies of planning and of tactical air operations, analyses of special phases of combat, plans and evaluations of operations--particularly interdiction, close support, and reconnaissance--are invaluable to individuals interested in military aviation. Using this primary material, the USAF Historical Division prepared three studies on operations of the USAF in the Korean conflict covering the period from 25 June to 1 November 1950; from 1 November 1950 to 30 June 1952; and from 1 July 1952 to the Armistice Agreement on 27 July 1953. These studies were later combined into a one-volume published history of the USAF in Korea, 1950-1953.

Support of USAF combat forces in the Korean conflict is described in histories of the Air Materiel Command (AMC), the Military Air Transport Service (MATS), and other USAF agencies responsible for weapons development,

medical support of air warfare, search and rescue, escape and evasion, communications, airfield construction, training of special crews, and intelligence.

Military Aviation Records, 1907-1941

The Archives has a considerable amount of material relating to military aviation from 1907 to America's entrance into World War II. Prominent among these holdings are library and office files of early Air Force schools--especially the Air Corps Tactical School; files of the Air Corps and AAF Boards; material from the Air Force Museum; files of AAF offices in Washington; and collections of personal papers received from individuals. Histories of major airfields in the United States--prepared in accordance with early historical directives--contain a great deal of data on pre-World War II aviation activities.

The types of information on early Air Force activities are varied. They include reports of notable flights by early airmen; histories of World War I aviation activities; aircraft accident reports beginning with 1908; histories of aviation medicine since 1912; Air Corps and AAF Board reports; Air Corps Newsletters; technical reports on materiel developments; photographs; biographical data; correspondence; newspaper clippings; and data on airships, balloon, and airplane developments since 1860.

Sizable collections of personal papers assembled by pioneer airmen have been placed in the Archives for preservation and use. The largest of these is the Ernest L. Jones collection of several hundred documents, including a chronology of the United States air arm beginning with balloon operations during the Civil War. Other personal collections of correspondence, diaries, speeches, lectures, scrapbooks, photographs, memoranda, special reports and studies dealing chiefly with World Wars I and II were given to the Archives by a number of distinguished Air Force personnel, among them Frank P. Lahm, Benjamin D. Foulois, Muir S. Fairchild, Millard F. Harmon, Ennis Whitehead, and William E. Kepner. A microfilm copy of the National Archives' holdings of Edgar S. Gorrell's history of the Air Service in World War I, 1917 to 1918--totaling almost 200 volumes--is available for use in the Archives.

Present Operations of the Archives

The current inflow of materials of all types averages close to 13,000 documents each year. Commands and Air Forces (and comparable organizations) submit histories semiannually, forwarding with the history such material from lower echelon organizations as the command historian considers to be of historical significance and worthy of retention in the Archives. Consequently, a substantial number of current monthly and quarterly histories of squadrons, groups, wings, and air divisions are added to the collection each year.

Although much of the material in the Archives is unclassified, certain World War II and more recent data are classified. This classified material, however, can be used by persons holding a security clearance and "need to know." Air University students wishing to use Archives documents should secure the proper authorization from the security officer of the school in which they are enrolled. Persons who do not have a security clearance but who desire access to the collection may make application for a special clearance to the Secretary of the Air Force (SAF-OIP), Washington, DC, 20330. Circulation of documents outside the USAF Historical Division is limited almost entirely to official requests for the loan of Archives' material.

The Archives--housed in Building 914, Maxwell AFB, Alabama--is open from 0800 to 1700 Monday through Friday. Inquiries relative to holdings on a specific subject or agency should be addressed to Aerospace Studies Institute (HA), Maxwell AFB, Alabama. 36112.



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF INFORMATION
HQ AIR UNIVERSITY

AIR UNIVERSITY

TELEPHONE: MONTGOMERY, ALA.
(205) 265-5621, Ext. 6817

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

MAXWELL AFB, ALA.---The demand for the work of Air University's Documentary Research Division (DRD) indicates a far-ranging extension of command influence.

The Division's "Aerospace Bibliography," for example, has been requested by other military services and government agencies, aerospace industries, many university libraries and the Library of Congress, and agencies of other nations.

The same demand is recorded for such DRD studies as "Pan-Africanism," "Latin American Nations Today," "Communist Reactions to U. S. Military Strategy," and "The Second Aerospace Glossary."

Dr. Woodford A. Heflin, chief of this Aerospace Studies Institute component, points out that Division studies are primarily for educational purposes at Air University.

They are designed for use by faculties and students of Air University's colleges and schools, and represent current research into political, economic, diplomatic, linguistic, and military affairs affecting Air Force policy, doctrine, strategy, weapon development, education, organization, and other matters.

-MORE-



Strength Through Knowledge

Three studies now being printed that will be part of current Air University curriculums typify the ceaseless research by the five-man activity: "Soviet Armed Forces," "Ideologies in Conflict," and "U. S. Military Aid to Latin America."

A number of DRD studies have been printed by commercial concerns, which can publish DRD's unclassified works since they are in the public domain. One is "The Air Force Dictionary," edited by Dr. Heflin, first printed in 1956 by the Government Printing Office, with a second printing in the same year. A major publishing house then printed it and carries it as an item in its current catalogs.

The Division, an original element of Air University, has produced more than 100 studies since 1946 when Air University and Aerospace Studies Institute were established. Studies are printed in formats ranging from typed reports to paperback and hardback textbooks. Division members also lecture at Air University, and assist students in research projects.

Interested agencies can obtain a current list of DRD studies by writing to the Chief, Documentary Research Division, ASI, Maxwell AFB, Ala. 36112.



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF INFORMATION
HQ AIR UNIVERSITY

AIR UNIVERSITY

TELEPHONE: MONTGOMERY, ALA.
(205) 265-5621, Ext. 6817

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

MAXWELL AFB, ALA. ---Air University is unique in its use of several educational devices, techniques, and philosophies throughout the entire educational program of the command.

All faculty members of Air University, which has the mission of providing professional military education for the U. S. Air Force, attend the command's Academic Instructor Course before assuming their duties. This course, six weeks in length, places major emphasis on student application in practice situations.

The conviction that excellence is required in both content and methodology of instruction at Air University has resulted in a pattern of supervision and preparation for instruction which is not generally practiced at many institutions of higher education. Some 270 new Air University instructors, all commissioned officers, attend the course each summer before taking their posts at command colleges, schools, or as Air Force ROTC professors of aerospace studies at civilian institutions.

All instruction is subject to student and faculty review. A representative sample of both student and faculty fill out critique forms on each lecture. These are considered and improvements made

MORE MORE MORE



Strength Through Knowledge

where appropriate before this instruction is given again.

The pattern of instruction in Air University professional military education schools is the large auditorium lecture and the small seminar session. Lectures occupy the morning, and points raised in lecture and readings are discussed and analyzed in seminar.

The command constantly reviews new developments in educational technology. Several experimental programs are started each year with limited numbers of students. Innovations that look good are further tested, and when proved are incorporated into an entire school or even several schools.

Closed circuit television, the use of programmed texts and programmed instruction, student involvement in planning and programming, language laboratory programs, case studies, reading improvement programs, listening laboratories, sensitivity training, instruction training workshops, independent study, simulation exercises in war-gaming activity with and without computer assistance, automated correspondence education practices, role playing and problem situations (many captured on video tape), and video taping of practice instruction for the instructor's self-analysis are some of the innovations that have been tested at Air University and gained wide acceptance and use throughout the command.

The Air Force is a new service and is not tied to tradition and custom in the development of its education program. Air University has taken advantage of much of the best available in educational technology during its 20-year history, in consonance with its motto: "We Progress Unhampered By Tradition."



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF INFORMATION
HQ AIR UNIVERSITY

AIR UNIVERSITY

TELEPHONE: MONTGOMERY, ALA.
(205) 265-5621, Ext. 6817

COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION

MAXWELL AFB, ALA.---Air University uses computers in instruction, and in the administration of educational materials.

The command's Air Force Institute of Technology is the heaviest user of computers as an aid to instruction. Simulation courses and exercises are an important part of instruction in logistics, weapon system management, systems analysis, and aerospace engineering.

In cooperation with other Air Force commands, Air University has access to current Air Force problems that are used as instructional and testing materials. The computer's rapid feedback of the effects of a student's decision gives him the opportunity to experience the equivalent of years of involvement within the period of a few days.

Curriculums of the command's professional military schools provide significant instruction in the theory, operation, and role of computers in the Department of Defense. Air War College and Air Command and Staff College students complete an ever-enlarging block of study each year dealing with various computerized systems used for military management and administration.

Warfare Systems School uses computers in war gaming. Using the

MORE MORE MORE



Strength Through Knowledge

computer to test strategy and weapon system utilization decisions allows rapid evaluation of individual student and group decisions.

Air University computer systems have been put to heavy use in educational administration, in the tasks of processing instructional and testing materials.

Of special note is the use of an RCA Videoscan Optical Reader combined with the RCA 501/301 computer complex.

This system processes some 300,000 test forms a month, at a speed of 750 a minute. Sheets are preprinted with a number code that identifies the student and his record. Answers are marked with pencil, and the optical reader instantly identifies and records the number code and test responses on magnetic tape.

This information is fed to preprogrammed tape banks, where answers are compared to the scoring key and results determined. These are printed out in mailing format. The system also automatically makes references to wrong answers on the student's answer card, indicating where the subject is covered in study materials.

The Videoscan system, unique to Air University, currently is most used to administer the command's vast Extension Course Institute correspondence education program. This agency will soon record 700,000 new enrollments in courses that are a mandatory part of the education of most Air Force enlisted personnel.

The Videoscan system is also being used on an increasing scale in streamlining the administration of the academic workload of the command's professional military schools.